United Nations A/62/433 (Part I)*

General Assembly

Distr.: General
11 December 2007

Original: English

Sixty-second session
Agenda item 63

Advancement of women

Report of the Third Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled:

"Advancement of women:

"(a) Advancement of women;

"(b) Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly"

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item at its 9th to 13th, 21st, 29th, 32nd, 34th, 39th, 42nd, 46th to 49th and 53rd meetings, from 15 to 17, 23, 29, 31 October and on 1, 8, 9, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 27 November 2007. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/62/SR.9-13, 21, 29, 32, 34, 39, 42, 46-49 and 53).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the work of its thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions;[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the future operations of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/62/173);

* Reissued for technical reasons.

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/62/38).

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(c) Report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers (A/62/177);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (A/62/178);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/62/201);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (A/62/202);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/62/290);

(h) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/62/188).

II. Consideration of draft decisions A/C.3/62/L.18 and Rev.1

4. At the 21st meeting, on 23 October, the representative of Estonia, on behalf of Estonia, Jordan, Mexico, Norway and the Sudan, introduced a draft decision entitled "Term of office of the members of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women" (A/C.3/62/L.18). Honduras and Kenya joined in sponsoring the draft decision, which read:

> "The General Assembly, mindful of the need to maintain the institutional memory of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women established by its resolutions 31/133 of 16 December 1976 and 39/125 of 14 December 1984, and taking note of the resignation, with effect on 31 December 2007, of two members of the Consultative Committee:
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> "(a) Decides that the two new members of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women, who are to be designated by the President of the General Assembly in accordance with paragraph 13 of the annex to resolution 39/125, shall be granted a full term of three years, commencing on 1 January 2008 and ending on 31 December 2010, and that the remaining three members of the Consultative Committee will continue to serve their three-year terms through 31 December 2009;
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> "(b) Also decides to include in the agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly an item entitled "Appointment of the members of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women."

5. At its 47th meeting, on 16 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft decision entitled "Term of office of the members of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women" (A/C.3/62/L.18/Rev.1), submitted by Austria, Chile, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Honduras, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Mexico, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, El Salvador, Greece,

Iceland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Swaziland joined in sponsoring the revised draft decision.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee was advised that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.

7. Also at the 47th meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.3/62/L.18/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

8. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Term of office of the members of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly, mindful of the need to maintain the institutional memory of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women established by its resolutions 31/133 of 16 December 1976 and 39/125 of 14 December 1984, and taking note of the resignation, with effect on 31 December 2007, of two members of the Consultative Committee:

(a) Decides that the two new members of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women, who are to be designated by the President of the General Assembly in accordance with paragraph 13 of the annex to resolution 39/125, shall be granted a full term of three years, commencing on 1 January 2008 and ending on 31 December 2010, and that the remaining three members of the Consultative Committee will continue to serve their three-year terms through 31 December 2009;

(b) Also decides to include in the agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly an item entitled "Appointment of the members of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women";

(c) Further decides that the future designation of the members of the Consultative Committee will follow the pattern decided upon in paragraph (a) above.